

In the  
**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re APPLICATION OF: Stephen G. Bales

Docket No: LA 001

Serial No.

Filed: October 8, 2003

For: "Lignoellulosic, Borate Filled, Thermoplastic Composites"

October 4, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington D.C. 20231

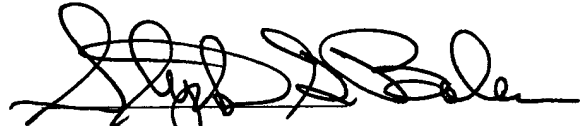
Sir:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

As suggested by 37 C.F.R. 1.97, the undersigned agent herein brings to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the references listed on the attached forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B, a copy of each of which is enclosed. This is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that no better prior art exists, or that a reference is relevant merely because it is cited.

The Examiner is requested to initial the attached forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B and to return a copy of the initialed documents to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen G. Bales', written over a horizontal line.

Stephen G. Bales

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

**Complete if Known**

Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor

Stephen G. Bales

## Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

LA 001

Sheet

of

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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**Examiner  
Signature**

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Art Unit

Examiner Name

Sheet

of

Attorney Docket Number

LA 001

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
	1	STEVEN VERHEY, PETER LAKS, DANA RICHTER, "Laboratory Decay Resistance of Woodfiber/Thermoplastic Composites", Forest Products Journal,	
		Vol 51, Sept. 2001, p 44-50.	
	2	MARK MANKOWSKI and JEFFREY J. MORRELL, "Patterns of Fungal Attack in Wood-Plastic Composites Following Exposure in a Soil Block Test,	
		Wood and Fiber Science, July 2000, p340-345	
	3	DAVID PENDLETON, et al, "Durability of an Extended HDPE/Wood Composite", Forest Products Journal, Vol 52, June 2002, p21-27	
	4	PETER LAKS and MARK MANNING, "Preservation of Wood Composites with Zinc Borate", Paper for The International Research Group on Wood	
		Preservation, June 1995.	
	5	TREK SEAN, GILLES BRUNETTE, and FRANCINE COTE, "Protection of Oriented Strandboard with Borate", Forest Products Journal, Vol 49,	
		June, 1999, p47-51.	

Examiner  
Signature

Date

Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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